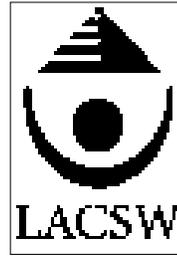


NEWSLETTER



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Shreveport-*Leesa Sitter, Peggy Salley*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2008

BY CAROL MILES

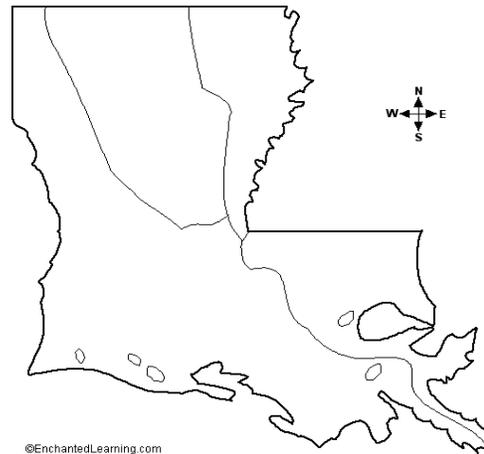
What an incredibly busy month for LACSW!!

Education News:

In May, we hosted 2 outstanding workshops. On May 9th and 10th, our LACSW member abroad, Laury Bourgeois presented a supervision and ethics workshop for continuing and newly applying BACS, Many thanks to River Oaks to hosting the event.

Then May 22nd through May 25th, Peggy Pace returned to Louisiana to present her Life Span Integration approach to psychotherapy. She presented again the beginning workshop and for the first time in our area, the advanced training. Many thanks to our hardworking education committee and especially to the chair, Myra Hidalgo.

Of course, they don't even get a break now because coming right up



Our base is Louisiana. Where are all the clinical social workers?

on us will be our June annual membership meeting and workshop. This year we are pleased to offer two 3 hour trainings: Understanding Eating Disorders from Origin to Recovery, Lauren Langley, Therapist, The New Orleans Institute, River Oaks Hospital and Trauma Based Sexual Compulsivity Myths, Dynamics, and Treatment, Dawn Diermann Treigle, Program Administrator, The New Orleans Institute, River Oaks Hospital.

On a different note, hats off to our legislative com-

mittee and its chair, past president Judith Haspel and our lobbyist Maxine Cormier. They have been working hard to protect our right to practice. HB 1345 looked like it would threaten social workers ability to practice substance abuse treatment (see more on this in the legislative report on page 2),and we continue to push for funding of the Medicaid proposal to allow LCSWs in private practice be paid by Medicaid for therapy.

Legislative Report 2008

Submitted by Judy Haspel, LCSW

The legislative season began with the usual flurry of activity, with many volunteers reading up to a dozen bills. Thanks to everyone who contributed to this process. There were several bills we followed, but seemingly nothing that would threaten our ability to practice. However, the bill that caused concern, HB 1345, was submitted later in the season and created much unease.

HB 1345 was presented by the Department of Addictive Disorders and Don Hidalgo, and was introduced by Rep. Smith. This bill in its original form substantively expanded addiction counselors' area of practice to include "psychotherapy" and "diagnosis." Also of concern was the idea that perhaps they intended to exclude clinical social workers from substance abuse practice.

LACSW represented by Justin Schleis, Anita Evans, and me attended a meeting to which we were invited by Carmen Weisner of NASW. We discussed with Bob Sawyer of the Department of Addictions and Don Hidalgo, president of the Addictions Board, various aspects of their bill. Our primary purpose was to insure that their language would not preclude social workers from doing substance abuse work. They also agreed to limit their practice of diagnosis to only pertain to addictions. Although we were concerned about their practicing "psychotherapy" as we understand it, we did not alter that language.

Problems arose after the meeting when NASW and LACSW's leadership rethought the process. We also learned that the LPCs, Psychologists, and NASW wanted to oppose the bill in its entirety. We joined them in a united front and Debbie Fernandez testified at the Health and Welfare committee meeting on May 25, 2008 as did Carmen and someone representing the LPC's.

The bill was unanimously, involuntarily deferred by the committee. This means that even though the people who proposed the bill did not want the bill to die, they said they were not going to take any more action on it this year. We are grateful to Carmen Wiesner and NASW for their support, and to Maxine Cormier, our lobbyist, for her wisdom and guidance. Thanks to Justin, Anita, and Deb for coming through when we needed them most. What makes this organization so great is the people in it and when there is a problem to be fixed, the clinical social workers show up.

Many of us have worked with addictions counselors whom we respect and trust. We anticipate that next year this bill or one very much like it will resurface. Our hope is that we can work out our differences in a collegial way and that there will be greater understanding of one another's positions. However, we do have to be prepared for a potentially adversarial event and have more trust in ourselves than in other potentially competing disciplines.

If anyone is at all interested in joining the legislative committee, please let us know. Your participation can range from screening a few bills to actually going to the legislature. With many participants, no task in and of itself is overwhelming. People who join us feeling unskilled soon find that he or she has much to offer. The exchange of ideas is stimulating and participating in the legislative process is fascinating.

LACSW ABROAD by Laury Bourgeois MSW, LCSW



Another C!—

For those of you who read my last column about working abroad, I closed with my four “C’s” of Clarity, Communication, Coordination and Checking-in that make working anywhere in the world work.

Offering this workshop and being back stateside reminded me of the energy I receive when I’m working with others and another “C”-

Strengthening Our Commitment to Social Work Supervision, Ethics and Cultural Diversity-

As many of you know (and some were there), I recently presented this workshop on behalf of the LACSW in New Orleans. We weathered a non-functioning LCD machine and threw caution to the wind...yes, a workshop without projected power point. But, everyone had them in their handouts.

The **BEST** things noted about the workshop were:

Very realistic information that was useful instead of “preachy”

No power points

Presenter’s energy and creativity (3)

Interactive and written information(2)

Experiential pieces, handouts on “model” forms for supervision

The **WORST** things noted about the workshop were:

History of Social Work

Organization

Some padding

Tempo

Room Temperature (3)

The 2-day workshop content and presenter scored overwhelming between good and excellent. One of the new sections: “Measuring Success in Supervision” scored the highest of all other sections for presentation and usefulness of information.

As with all presentations, I have feedback that I will take and use to improve future workshops-as well as continue to let go, laugh and do my best to move on when the LCD machine doesn’t work or the room temperature doesn’t cooperate! Thanks to the LACSW for this opportunity, to River Oaks for hosting us, and to those of you who attended and participated so well.!

Comraderie

I looked up the definition of comrade: **a person who shares one’s interests or activities; friend; companion-a fellow member of a group**-and the faces of my comrades on this journey flashed before my eyes.

Preparing for the workshop gave me the opportunity to work closely again with Myra Hidalgo and Carol Miles. It also meant getting back in touch with Emily Efferson and the LABSWE to make sure that we were abiding by the guidelines and offering the required content.

On the days of the workshop, I was pleased to see familiar faces and then to hear familiar names that I was able to put faces to for the first time. Some participants had been to this workshop before and I apologized for any repetition. Other participants had been colleagues from outside agencies that I had worked closely with during my career and some I had only spoken with on the phone as I fulfilled my supervisory duty of providing references.

As I focus on offering continuing social work education independently, it is important to stay current with my licenses and permits. Working on-line with the LABSWE has been easy to facilitate, but continuing my permit to practice in Great Britain required going the extra mile to get signatures and paperwork completed. A special thanks to Ron Mancoske in that department.

The energy and excitement of working together can be missing for me with 5000 miles and an ocean between us-so a special thank you to you-my comrades and the profession we share!

The Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers (LACSW) is a voluntary association of clinical social workers whose mission is
“to define, represent, promote, and protect clinical social work as a knowledge-based, client-centered profession which provides quality mental health services to the general public.”

LACSW offers its members the following benefits:

- A Board of Directors with state - wide representation to oversee the concerns of clinical social workers across the state of Louisiana.
- The only active presence in the Louisiana legislature through a full-time lobbyist who promotes clinical social work issues for the consumer and the social work practitioner.
- Discounts for workshops on clinical social work skills sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee within the Association.
- A clearinghouse for concerns of clinical social workers that are beyond the influence of the individual practitioner.
- Listing in a membership directory made available to health care companies and consumers to market the clinical social work services of the members.
- A Bi-monthly newsletter to keep members informed of the actions of the Association on their behalf.
- Staying abreast of national concerns via LACSW's membership in the Council of Social Work Organizations created in 2006 by the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work.
- Representative interaction with managed care companies in Louisiana to assure high clinical practice standards and appropriate fee structures.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKERS

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND REFERRAL DIRECTORY INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP YEAR: July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION: Please list the information you wish to be used in the Membership Referral Directory for members and the

public and as a marketing tool for approaching managed care companies.

NAME: _____

(Last, First, Middle Initial or Nickname) - Please Print

CREDENTIALS: (Please circle all that apply) GSW LCSW Diplomate Bd. Approved Supervisor

Other Certifications: _____

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: _____

(Street, City, State, Zip)

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

if different from above (Street, City, State, Zip)

E-MAIL: _____ Website: _____ OFFICE PHONE: () - _____

FAX: () - _____ HOME PHONE : () - _____ List Home In Directory: Yes No

How do you prefer to be contacted? ___ Mail ___ Fax ___ Email ___ Office Phone ___ Home Phone ___ Any listed

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION: Please use your Voter Registration Card to complete the following:

State Senator: _____ Senator District Number: _____

Representative: _____ Representative District Number: _____

MEMBERSHIP DUES: Please make payable to LACSW c/o Connie Konikoff, Treasurer, 110 Nathalie St., Laf., LA 70506

_____ Student Membership _____ \$ 20.00 \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ GSW/MSW Membership _____ \$ 75.00 \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ LCSW Membership _____ \$195.00 \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ Retired Membership _____ \$ 50.00 \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ Agency/Corp. Membership _____ \$300.00 \$ _____ Ck # _____

CONTRIBUTIONS:

_____ Clin-Pac (Political Action Committee) - Please make payable to Clin-Pac \$ _____ Ck # _____

_____ Donation For Lobbying Efforts - Please make payable to LACSW \$ _____ Ck # _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Credit Card: . Visa . Mastercard

Account # _____ Exp. Date ____/____ Signature _____

Group Name or Place of Employment: _____

Practice Setting: ___ Private Practice ___ Agency Setting ___ In Patient ___ Clinic Consultation Services: Yes No

Work Schedule: ___ Full-Time ___ Part-Time ___ Days ___ Evenings ___ Saturdays

Populations: ___ Children ___ Adolescents ___ Adults ___ Geriatric

Cultural Issues: ___ African American ___ Asians ___ Hispanics

Modalities: ___ Individual Therapy ___ Couple Therapy ___ Group Therapy ___ Family Therapy

Specialty Groups: _____ Therapeutic Models: _____

Please list clinical specializations (Maximum 6): _____

Are you interested in participating in the Speaker's Bureau? _____ If yes, please list topics below: _____

Check with your C.P.A. for your particular tax situation regarding business expense deductions. Dues used for lobbying are not tax deductible. The LACSW uses the vast majority of dues every year for legislative lobbying expense in order to protect your vendorship law and the Licensed Clinical Social Work credential. We are an all volunteer organization here to protect your profession. Please join! Thank you!

SUMMER Half-Day WORKSHOPS

3 CEUs Each

Friday, June 20, 2008

River Oaks Psychiatric Hospital

New Orleans, Louisiana

1525 River Oaks Road West (East of Dickey Ave., off Citrus Blvd.)

504-734-1740 * 800-366-1740

8:15 – 9:00 Registration, President's Welcome and Announcements

9:00 – 12:00 "UNDERSTANDING EATING DISORDERS:

FROM ORIGIN TO RECOVERY"

Presented by: Lauren Langley, PMHNP-BC

Therapist, The New Orleans Institute, River Oaks Hospital

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch provided on site by River Oaks Hospital

LACSW Board of Directors meeting

1:00 – 4:00 "TRAUMA-BASED SEXUAL COMPULSIVITY:

MYTHS, DYNAMICS, AND TREATMENT"

Presented by: Dawn Diermann Treigle, MSW, LCSW

Program Administrator, The New Orleans Institute, River Oaks Hospital

Registration Fees: By May 30: After May 30:

LACSW Members / Non-members Members / Non-Members

Both workshops (includes lunch, 6 CEUs)..... \$90 / \$115 \$105 / \$130

Morning workshop only (3 CEUs)..... \$50 / \$75 \$65 / \$90

Afternoon workshop only (3 CEUs)..... \$50 / \$75 \$65 / \$90

LACSW SUMMER 2008

To register in advance, fill out the information requested below and mail by June 13 with your payment to: **LACSW c/o Connie Konikoff, LCSW; 110 Nathalie St.; Lafayette, LA 70506**

Name: _____ Degree _____ State/License # _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail Address (to confirm registration): _____ LACSW member? _____

I would like to attend: _____ All day (both workshops) _____ Morning workshop only _____ Afternoon workshop only

Please choose one payment method:

_____ I have enclosed a check for \$ _____ [US dollars] made payable to LACSW

_____ Please charge my: _____ VISA or _____ MasterCard. Amount to charge on credit card: \$ _____ [US dollars]

Card Number: _____

Expires _____ 3 digit security code* _____

Name on Card _____

Credit card billing address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

* The 3 digit security code can be found on the back of the credit card at the top right end of the signature bar.

HINT: HOW TO GET IN TOUCH!

Senders of action alerts just assume EVERYBODY knows how to do it. Well now, you too can know how to do it!

Go to <http://www.us.gov> to get all your contact information for your governmental officials.. (Well, you also need to know your zip code, but hey, you've gotta do SOME of the work!) But that one web address is all you have to remember.....

By going to that one web site www.us.gov you can "follow the bread crumbs" and find the contact information for any and all government officials. For example, if you were wanting to know A) Who Is My N.C. Representative? and B) How do I contact her/him? you would begin by double-clicking on "state governments" on the home page of www.us.gov and then (see below) putting in your zip code plus four and "following the bread crumbs." The same general principles apply whether you are looking up state or federal Senators, or anyone else.

Center for Clinical Social Work
the national voice of the profession, guardian of its values, and champion of its rights

“WELCOME ALL ASSOCIATION MEMBERS”



**You Help Others...
But Who is Helping You?
Let us open the doors of
opportunity for YOU.**

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★ **\$20 Discount for Association Members** ★

Founded by the American Board of Examiners in Clinical Social Work

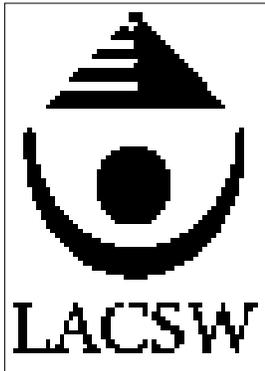
LACSW

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